Masonic Temple S. D. Nickerson Boston

NOTICE: For FIVE new Subscriptions at HALF RATES we will give one FREE.

The FREEMASON

* * * * * * * * AND THE FEZ.

A Masonic and Fraternal Monthly Magazine

VOLUME VI. JANUARY, 1898. No. 1.

WANTED

We will publish a want ad for employment for any poor brother, not over forty words three months free. Other wants, fifteen words or over, 1 cent per word, each time; 6 months, 5 cents; 1 year, 9 cents.

WANTED—A good agent in every Masonic community to canvass for this Journal on good commissions. At our HALF RATE we offer good terms. Address, The FREEMASON AND THE FEZ, 121, Second Avenue, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. tf

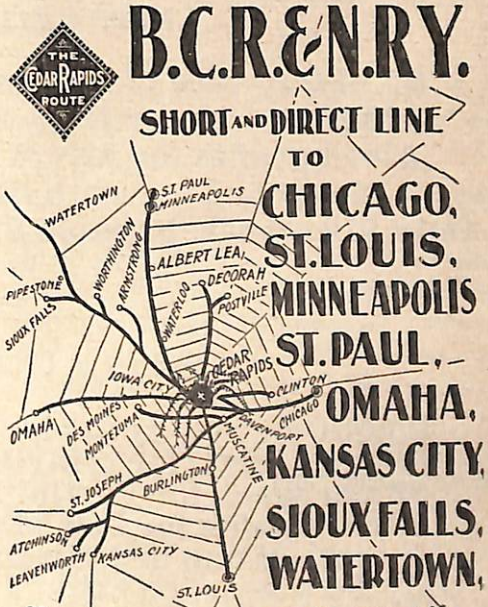
WANTED—The people of Iowa to know that the A. O. U. W. is the grandest order on earth, safe as a real estate investment, a protection to widows and orphans, and within the reach of those who have but small incomes. It costs nothing to get information. Address, R. L. Tilton, G. M. W. Ottumwa, Iowa.

FOR SALE—Imperial Council N. M. S.; Proceedings 1884, 1887, and 1893.

B.C.R.&N.RY.

THE CEDAR RAPIDS ROUTE

SHORT AND DIRECT LINE TO CHICAGO, ST. LOUIS, MINNEAPOLIS ST. PAUL, OMAHA, KANSAS CITY, SIOUX FALLS, WATERTOWN,



"PULLMAN SLEEPERS," UNEXCELLED SERVICE,

J. MORTON, G.P.&T.A.
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

Fatigue Coats for Knights Templar,

Are now the CORRECT THING. We make them in many styles and at the right prices. Send for illustrated list.

THE PETTIBONE BROS. MANUFACTURING CO.

MASONIC DEPT. { LODGE OUTFITTERS, MILITARY PURVEYORS.

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

HALF RATES: WE WANT YOUR HELP IN DOUBLING OUR LIST.

THE National Masonic Accident Association.

HOME OFFICE, DES MOINES IOWA.

Incorporated under Iowa Laws, Composed of Masons only

Members of Division "A" are entitled to

$5,000 in case of accidental death.
$25 per week for total disability (52 weeks.)
Also benefits for loss of sight of one or both eyes, or loss of one or both hands or feet, and costs
Only $12 a year, payable $3 quarterly.

Members of Division "B" are entitled to

$5,000 in case of Accidental Death.
$25 per week for total disability (200 weeks.)
$5 per week for Partial Disability (26 weeks.)
Also benefits for loss of sight of one or both eyes, or loss of one or both hands or feet, and coss
Only $6 a year, payable $4 quarterly.

For further information, address the Home Office.

J. A. DOVERMAN, Sec'y,
Masonic Temple, Des Moines, Iowa.

OFFICERS.

R L. CLARKE, President,
J. A. DOVERMAN, Secretary.

GEO. B. VAN SAUN, Vice-President,
ALF. WINGATE, Treasurer.

.... DIRECTORS ....

O. B. AYRES,
GEO. B. VAN SAUN
B. C. BOWMAN

CLARK VARNUM,
R. L. CLARKE,
C. H. MYRICK.

F. A. PERCIVAL,
ALF. WINGATE,
J. A. DOVERMAN.

SAY:- Don't we want a live Masonic Journal in Iowa? I f so, help us, by sending us all the HALF RATE subscriptions you can.

The FREEMASON AND THE FEZ.

In the Interests of Freemasonry, the Concordant Orders of Iowa, and Fraternity Generally.

VOLUME VI. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, JANUARY, 1898. NUMBER 1.

HANGING ON THE ROPES.

BY NOBLE C. E. BAKER OF CEDAR RAPIDS.

Before you can a Noble be
And pass into the Shrine,
You must receive the dark degree
While hanging on the ropes.

CHORUS.

For you must keep a hanging on the rope,
Or you can't be a member of the Shrine.

If I to you a tale unfold,
Your hair will stand on end:
It will come nigh to freeze your blood,
And make your back to bend.

The novice who with anxious care
Walks on the desert sand,
Will need a friendly arm made bare
Before he joins the band.

But when your eyes on Lulu rest,
And she to you does smile,
Don't fear the worst, but think 'tis best,
For she is free from guile.

And if upon this road you travel,
You won't forget your ride,
For you will sit upon the camel,
And show off all your pride.

But time would fail to tell it all,
And you would give up hope:
So when you fear, and hear the call,
Why, don't let go the rope.

THE COHESIVENESS OF FREEMASONRY.

There is a cohesiveness in Freemasonry that is found nowhere else, and the question is pertinent, Why is it? In the Church there are storms and schisms, divisions and strife. Brother is arrayed against brother, and where should be found a spirit of forbearance and brotherly love, is the bitterest hatred. The fierce fires of hell are not hotter than the fire of religious persecution. Among those who only a short while ago there seemed to be the sweetest harmony, there now exists antagonism that threaten the peace of the whole religious world. The spirit of determined opposition to fancied heresy in some marked and prominent leaders of Christian thought, has brought out the very worst weakness of the human heart. In their zeal to "defend the faith," to "maintain the dignity of the Church," they resort to the basest means known in the world, and the hard feelings engendered makes those who are fast freinds the bitterest foes.

Rivers of human blood have been spilled in religious warfare, and the very worst impulses of the human heart have been aroused. The knife of the assassin has been used as a defense of pretended Christian belief. The creed! the creed! has been the cry, and any who dared oppose the dictum of the Church, whether it was in harmony with the convictions of conscience or not, suffered the rack or the thumbscrew or the faggot.

In the State the same spirit of strife and contest is seen. Parties war with each other, and those of a man's own household are often found arrayed against him. If that difference of opinion were confined to mere matters of conviction, and were not allowed to change a man's very nature, and cause him to raise his hand against his best friend, and even in fraticidal strife to curse his nearest kin, it would not be so dreadful in its consequences.

In societies, jealousies and ambition cause the widest separations. Pride, with its haughty dangers, estranges those who should be in closest friendship. There are "castes" and "sets" so seclusive and exclusive that hearts are made to bleed from the slights and neglects that are daily heaped upon them. There is no protection in society. A shrug of the shoulder, a knowing wink, or an inuendo soon takes shape in a rumor that grows with every

repetion until the purest angel from heaven would be made to appear blacker than the demons of hell. Society destroys friendships. Pride tramples upon the heart-strings and causes distress where there should be peace and joy.

All men are equal in Masonry. Not in the sense of social or intellectual attainments, but in being the creature of one Supreme Being. Therefore in the Lodge-room all ranks are leveled, all distinctions are done away with, and the prince and peasant, the richman and the poor, the learned and the unlearned, meet upon one common level and strike hands as brothers.

There is a golden chain of sincere affection that binds heart to heart in the mystic circle. Political strife finds no place in the Lodge-room. Religious creeds and theological dogmas are not heard of there. On the same tessellatep floor meet the Christian from his church, the Mohammedan from mosque, and the Jew from his synagogue. Outside their religious beliefs keep them wide apart, and each goes in divergent ways, but in the Lodge-room there is a common altar erected to the one All-Father, to which all can come and about which all may gather as brothers. This is a strong element of cohesiveness.—*N. Y. Dispatch.*

Doc Ellison still takes the premium for the sensible notice, intended to convey information and done with it, too many are too elaborate.

Among the losses by death from among the Nobles of El-Kahir we have to report Noble W. J. Summerwill, of Odebolt, Ia., November 5th, 1897. It will be a sad surprise to many.

Talk is going the rounds of several meetings in the near future.

THE MORBID ELEMENT.

No matter what the verdict of a jury nor the result of a court martial may be, there is a morbid element that will insist upon there being conclusions directly opposite of that warranted, In the case of Private Hammond, there's the necessary discipline of a military prison, his being forced to go or be taken to the place where he was to be tried for disobedience—but to drag him heels first, to prod and jab him with the sword-point or bayonet; yea more, to force the prisoner to stand chattering in the cold improperly clad while the guards are fully protected, is entirely outside the necessities of the case. In short, the morbid theory that a system of superiority in our army, like that of the autocratic powers is necessary, should be destroyed, and if need be, the grievance of any private soldier should be carried up to the highest tribunal and settled *right*.

If the so-called "well to do" families were to insist upon it that their sons should lay aside the asenine style of wearing the hair and then quit the aimless stare of the idiotic noodle, for the wholesome and hearty manliness of the genuine American, they would reap more benefit and the cubs would look better.

WE WONDER?

We were on a crowded "clipper" train not long ago, when a plainly dressed "common" looking man, with his wife and babies, got aboard. The seats were full—the man was compelled to sit far back in the car. The officious man who felt that the trains were wont to make time, came brusquely and ordered the man to have his "family" at the door ready to jump, as it were, for their lives—to save the road a minute of time. Now, *we wonder*, if the man had had fine raiment, a gold ring and a high look; if he could have said, "My gal's a hai born lady," whether Mr. Man would have jostled him in that unceremonious fashion of a brakeman who don't understand his business. We rather think the company will get "onto" that man's frame and he'll not be pushing folks off the train always.

THE LODGES.

While in Boone, Dec. 10th, we met some of the Brothers for a few moments.

Down in Missouri they predict that a man will "soon be Grand Master" when he reaches the Grand Occident. So says—*The Orient.*

We acknowledge the courtesy of an invitation to attend the banquet of Helion Lodge No. 36, St. John's day, Dec. 27, 1897. Sorry to miss it.

A photograph of "three generations" of Lintons—Thomas, Grand Tyler of Colorado, Charles T, (his Son) and Harry B. (Grandson) comes to us with an item giving the information that the Grand Lodge of Colorado raised the last named brother Sept. 21, 1897, by request of Denver Lodge No. 5.

While in Cedar Falls, Dec. 28, we had the privilege of meeting Brother and Sister Van Saun in their pleasant home, and of breaking bread with them.

Garden City Lodge, Chicago, is right up in "G" with their notice of "public installation" Dec. 22, 1897. Any lodge that does as they do will succeed.

From "Way down in Maine" comes the warning that Peruvian Masons have removed the "Great Light" from their altars and thereby become clandestine and irregular.

The following are the officers elect of Anchor Lodge, A. F. and A. M., Hampton, for the ensuing year:

W. M.—J. N. Mallon.
S. W.—J. E. Harriman,
J. W.—John Vought.
Treas.—T. E. B. Hudson.
Sec.—Joseph Jennings.

There is no justice in the unanimous ballot for application—especially when a brother promptly applies for the privilege, showing his recent dismissal from a Lodge (or other Masonic body). We don't care if Missouri does try to get it up to "two negative votes necessary to reject an applicant for affiliation." Iowa has a good system in the symbolic lodges, but it is not perfect. Two-thirds clear is not just; let it honor the universality of masonic standing by making a *majority* vote for affiliation *and two-thirds for initiation.*

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA., Dec. 26. '97.

J. W. G:—Herewith I hand you list of officers in our Blue Lodges in Council Bluffs for 1898, elected and installed:

BLUFF CITY, NO. 71.

W. M.—J. M. Trainor.
S. W.—J. E. Waterman.
J. W.—J. M. Kurtz.
Sec.—J. B. Aikins.

EXCELSIOR, NO. 259.

W. M.—G. H. Jackson.
S. W.—S. E. Spoor.
J. W.—T. H. Brownlee.
Sec.—Nat Shepard.

Yours,
G. H. JACKSON.

GRAND CUSTODIAN'S LETTER.

CEDAR FALLS, IA., Dec. 31, 1897.

Dear Bro. Geiger:—

The calls this present calendar year have not been as numerous as in the years past for several reasons that could be given. However, I have visited up to the present time Fairfield, Maxwell, Kalona, Allison, Moingona, Vail, Oakland, Armstrong and Ocheyedan, and still have quite a number on my list for the future. Have been obliged to make some long distances between places, for the purpose of accommodating the brethren as to time, many of them desiring the schools to be held after the holiday season.

My visits for January will be at Radcliffe and Hubbard on the 5th and 6th; at Steamboat Rock on the 7th and 8th, and probably at Toledo on the 12th, 13th and 14th; at Richland on the 21st and 22d; at Moulton on the 24th and 25th, and possibly at Mason City on the 27th, 28th and 29th; time for the following places not yet decided upon, viz: West Bend, Lake View, Lime Springs, and a few verbal calls not placed on my list. I am trusting that many anticipated calls for the winter and early spring work will be forwarded me early in January, so that I can lay out routes more satisfactorily, in order that traveling expenses can be kept at the lowest possible figures. I am becoming more and more assured in my own mind that the Grand Lodge should set aside a Contingent Fund each year to pay the actual traveling expenses of the Visiting Custodian.

Fraternally yours,
GEO. B. VAN SAUN.
Visiting Custodian.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

The Grand Council of Illinois divides into nine "Arches" for work and supervision.

The elective officers of Anchor Chapter, R. A. M., No. 69, Hampton, for the year 1898, are:

H. P.—E. S. Patterson.
King—James Thompson.
Scribe—L. P. Holden.
Treas.—J. E. Harriman.
Sec.—T. E. B. Hudson.

The Grand High Priest is still in the far South, enjoying the balmy air, and try-

ing to get rid of his "sciatica." His deputy Comp. W. F. Cleveland, is amply able to hold us down till W. D. gets back.

We have the official list of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania for 1898, by the courtesy of Charles Cary, G. S.

COMMANDERIES.

We found the Fraters of Cherokee "all well" Jan. 4–6.

We extend congratulations to Sir Knight H. C. Loomis, of Winfield, Kansas, and Ida M. Houck, who were married Dec. 25, 1897, in Wichita, Kan.

From the Grand Recorder (Mayo), of the Grand Encampment U. S., comes the memorial notice of P. G. M., John Q. A. Fellows, whose death is noticed elsewhere.

Temple Commandery, No. 4, Des Moines, rendered a full program at their Christmas observance. From the copy sent us by Recorder Coleman it must have been a rich occasion.

At Sioux City the Grand Captain General Sir D. M. Brownlee, made us his guest at the Garretson Jan. 6–10, and Sirs McNeil, Webster, Milchrist, St. Clair, Moore, and many others showed us courtesies.

Officers elected for 1898, Hugh DePayens Commandery, No. 51, K. T., St. Joseph, Mo.:

E. C.—Arling M. Worden.
Gen.—W. S. Fowles.
C. G.—John G. Drew.
Prelate—Wm. L. Buechle.
S. W.—Alva P. Clayton.
J. W.—Geo. L. Hammer.
Treas.—Henry V. Arrowsmith.
Rec.—Robert T. Penick.

THE EASTERN STAR.

We acknowledge the receipt of the New Year's greetings of M. W. Grand Matron of the Order—Sister Partridge.

The Grand Matron, (Sister Meredith) informs us that she has organized Chapters at Monroe, Manning, Marne and Montezuma. M—My four M's! but that's all right, the other letters can wait.

The elective officers of Franklin Chapter, No. 77, Hampton, Order of the Eastern Star, for 1898, are as follows:

W. M.—Mrs. Sarah Bailey.
W. P.—T. H. Coble.
A. M.—Mrs. Sara Funk.
Treas.—Mrs. Alma Beed.
Sec.—Mrs. Minnie Mallon.
Conductress.—Mrs. Jennie Thompson.
Asst. Conductress.—Mrs. Lucy Van Nuys.

THE SCOTTISH RITE.

The 42d Annual Rendezvous of Oriental Consistory was held Dec. 30, 1897.

The Annual Convocation of Missouri Consistory, No. 1, St. Louis, will be held Jan. 11-14, 1898.

Palmoni Council P. J., of Buffalo, N. Y., carries off the palm for novelties in the line of prepared ballots for the election. It is all right, too.

CLINTON, IOWA, Jan. 16, 1898.

Rev. J. W. Geiger, Marion, Iowa.

Dear Sir and Brother:—

My attention has been called to a statement in the December number of THE FREEMASON AND FEZ, on page 103 under the heading of Scottish Rite Items, claiming that in the Southern Jurisdiction the degrees Fourth to Thirty-second inclusive, are $330.00. I am at loss to know your authority for this statement, which is an error, misleading to the uninformed public and injurious to the Consistories in this state, and throughout the whole Jurisdiction. The fees for conferring these degrees by DeMolay Consistory are $115.00, see page five of brochure which I forward to you by this post. I believe that these fees are practically the same as charged by other Consistories in the state.

In justice to all concerned will you kindly make correction in the next issue of your paper and relieve at least the Consistories in this state, of the imputation of excessive charges for the degrees.

Fraternally yours,
L. C. EASTMAN, 32°
Commander-in-Chief,
De Molay Consistory.

[The item referred to was a quotation from another Masonic department—set up and published in our absence—hence unnoticed till this letter reached us. The degrees should have read from 4 to 33, but even then it would be misleading.—EDITOR.]

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.

The Camels keep coming.

Many Temples have new officers.

Several Temples had "ladies night" during the holidays.

The extravagant notice is passing, though some still spread it on.

Several of the Temples still keep their employment notices up and we hope they do good.

Kaaba went to Ft. Madison, Dec. 29th, 1897. No particulurs. Rumor says they had a nice time.

Mohammed Temple, Peoria, Ill., sent a roster of its membership, with the notice for Dec. 14, 1897.

Recorder Markham, of Ismalia, Buffalo, N. Y., duns in poetry, and we don't doubt they all "pay their dues."

Tangier went to Grand Island, Dec. 7, 1897. What happened we have never heard. Noble Crickmore, chirp.

El-Kahir has prospects—their new home will soon be opened—and the camels are kept fed and watered ready for flight.

Pyramid Temple sent out a notice on straw paper and heads it thus:

HARD TIMES! BED ROCK.

On one thing you safely may bet,
We can't run this shrine into debt.
If this paper don't please you,
We will say to appease you,
'Tis the best our money will get.

Oh, Thadeus, oh, Sumner, rather than stop the show, make one notice do twice!

Moila Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., St. Joseph, Mo., elected the following officers for 1898:

Potentate—Wm. L. Buechle.
C. R.—John O. Barkley.
A. R.—Huston Wyeth.
H. P. & P.—Donald Campbell.
O. G.—John G. Drew.
Treas.—John M. Austin.
Rec.—Arling M. Worden.
Representatives—Wm. L. Buechle, Alva P. Clayton, Chas A. Batson.

Al-Chymia Temple, Memphis, Tenn., informs us of its new officers as follows:

Potentate and Representative.—John M. Sears.

Recorder.—Thos. J. Barchus

Medinah held her Annual Meeting Dec. 29th. No word since, but they're all right if they "don't give a—— for the whole state of Michigan."

We spent four days in Sioux City, lately, receiving calls and collecting dues. Many Nobles showed us kindness. We found Nobles D. M. Brownlee, Byron Webster and Milchrist royal fellows and good bowlers. They have our thanks for many favors.

Our illustrious friend, Noble W. B. Melish, announces to his Syrians his determination to refuse re-election (it would be the eighthteenth time) as Potentate (the only one) of Syrian Temple, Cincinnati. Billy may get out of office, but he never quits.

BOOK TABLE.

We have the Proceedings of the Second Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Washington for 1897. Thanks to Ill. Ed. R. Hare.

We have the same courtesy from the Grand Council of Illinois for 1897.

"The Quarries" or "From Sun to Sun," at Stone City, comes to us from J. A. Green of the Champion Quarries, Stone City, Iowa. Thanks.

A racy sketch, the "The Breaking In of a Cowboy," by C. L. Andrews, now at Juneau, Alaska, leads the list of attractions in the January *Midland Monthly* (Des Moines) "A White Day," follows—a prize descriptive sketch, by Minnie Stichter. U. S. Consul Bell, of Sidney, Australia, writes of Australian Aborigines; Mrs. M. C. Faville, pictures "Quaint Old Norfolk;" Carrie Wyatt Banks, sketches royalty-life in Hawaii, and Leigh Leslie tells the romantic story of Empress Eugenie, and Dr. Evans, recently deceased. In this number Colonel Grant disappears, and in the next General Grant will enter on his career. There are more, and perhaps better, stories than usual in this Midwinter Fiction Number. The *Midland* enters upon its fifth year in full enjoyment of its well-earned right to live and grow.

THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ.

Published Monthly

In the interest of Freemasonry in Iowa, and Fraternity generally.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER, K. T., 32°, EDITOR.
P. O. Drawer E, Marion, Iowa, for all business and exchanges.

Entered in the postoffice at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as second-class mail matter.

TERMS:—$1.00 per year. Single copies 10 cents. Subscribers failing to receive any number will please notify us by postal card at once.

DISCONTINUANCES:—Subscribers wishing this magazine stopped at the expiration of their subscription, will please notify us, otherwise we will consider it their desire to continue.

DATE FOR COPY:—To insure notice in the current Number, all copy must reach the Editor by the 1st of the month at latest. Postal card notices of current news from all bodies are desired.

HOW TO REMIT:—Send all remittances by some safe method; receipts will be forwarded by return mail.

Address all correspondence to
JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER, Editor.
Drawer E, Marion, Iowa.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, JANUARY, 1898.

GRAND GATHERINGS.

GRAND LODGES MEET.
Iowa, Council Bluffs, June 7, 1898.

A. R. DEWEY,.....Washington.....GRAND MASTER
T. S. Parvin.....Cedar Rapids.....Grand Secretary

CONVOCATIONS, R. A. M.
Iowa, Grand, Burlington, August 25th, 1898.
W. D. IRVINE....Sioux City.....GRAND HIGH PRIEST
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Secretary

CONCLAVES K. T.
Grand Encampment, Pittsburg, Pa., Oct. 1898.
Iowa Grand, Templar Park, July —, 1898.
F. H. LORING,.....Waterloo.....GRAND COMMANDER
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Recorde

GRAND CHAPTERS O. E. S.
General Grand (U. S.,) 1898.
MRS. DELIA B. MEREDITH..Newton..GRAND MATRON
W. H. Norris.....Manchester.....Grand Patron
M. Maria Jackson...Council Bluffs.....Grand Recorder

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.
Imperial Council, Dallas, Texas, June 14, 1898.
El-Kahir Temple, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
E. O. ALDERMAN .....Marion..... POTENTATE
John Westley Geiger.....Marion..... .....Recorder

Kaaba Temple, Davenport, Iowa.
GEO. F. WHITE.....Davenport.....POTENTATE
C. J. Brown.....Davenport.....Recorder

Tangier Temple, Omaha, Nebraska.
H. HARDY.....Omaha.....POTENTATE
Louis E. Wettling.....Box 523, Omaha.....Recorder

EDITORIAL NOTES

Steadily on.

We lose an old friend, (subscriber) now and then. Why?

Few more able and exhaustive reports have ever came from a Cabinet officer than the one issued by Sir Knight brother James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture.

We get new ones here and there, and we're after more.

We publish all the news we get hold of —in time. Some comes late—some just after the ball.

Bro. Bun. F. Price greets us with his "New Year's" Autograph—"writ large." Thanks. Wish you the same.

The greatest novelty we have yet met with in the form of printing press motors is at Milford, Iowa. It is a steam fixture for running a Washington hand press—and it has worked.

From our venerable and Noble brother, Richard Lambert, G. S., we receive memorial notices of the death of the great and good man and Mason, John Q. A. Fellows of Louisiana.

We have agreed to club-rate with "The Trestle Board" of San Francisco. Their regular rate per year is $1, and ours is $1. We will send both for a year for $1.50. Read later notices.

We extend congratulations to A. M. Rambo, Journalist, editor of the Masonic department of Taggart's Sunday Times, on his birthday anniversary—January 8th, 1898. When Andy was editing the Courant in Columbia, we were jest larnin the editen bisiness. Shake.

Think of the time when we will not need to worry over the question of laundry bills, or how to pay the washerwoman. Bellamy pictures an era of paper clothing in the 20th century, which we may wear, then throw away. Some men use their fraternal responsibilities that way now.

After March first, next, it will cease to be lawful to have printed on second-class matter directions to deliver to any indefinite address. Our friends who have sent us circulars and anonymous newspapers addressed to "any old thing" will now please direct to the boxes or persons where they belong.

In justice to the "Equitable," whose advertisement appears on our last cover page, we want to say that to the former members of the I. M. B., they give their share of the benefit of all "new business," so that the criticisms we have heard in some quarters are not just or fair when this is known. Besides, the contract was openly and fairly

submitted to us all. The Equitable is all right.

WE APOLOGIZE.

The venerable Dr. Parvin, Grand Secretary of Iowa, writes to the editor that our item in last month's issue entitled, "A Lie Nailed" has greatly offended him, and as we least of all things intended to offend or annoy him, we tender this public apology. The item was intended for an earlier number, when its pertinence would have sounded different, but possibly no less objectionable to the Grand Secretary, so we're sorry because it annoys him.

INTOLERANCE.

We were in a city in the Northwest, not long ago, where a "union" Thanksgiving service was to be held, but we found that the Unitarian minister, a bright and pious lady, was not invited to take any part therein. How far we are removed from the days when our friend's grandfather was thrown out of a Congregational church for attending a Quaker meeting! Is it any wonder that we have no "influence to win men under such circumstances?"

FRATERNITIES.

The editor of this journal is the Deputy Grand Master Workman of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and as such is looking for openings to plant lodges of that body everywhere he can; but it does not necessarily prejudice him against the good points of other fraternities. Information will be used for the common good in this department. Address, Drawer E, Marion Iowa.

With what a degree of gusto the "Life Insurance Courant" of Oak Park, Ill., announces that with the failure of the Massachusetts B. L. A., "Verily the day of reckoning is at hand,"—reckoning with whom and for what, is not said.

The Benevolent and protective Order of Elks is making a phenomenal growth in Iowa. It is one of the leading Fraternities in the country.

The "eminently practical and commonsense presentation of the fallacy of assessmentism, as contrasted with life insurance, by Joseph Ashbrook, manager of the insurance department of the Provident Life and Trust Co.," is lop-sided, knock-kneed, flea-bitten and bosh.

One Fraternity we could name has turned technical, and now the man will have to testify to his own death proofs, or that order will resist payment.

There is a deputy for the Supreme Court of Honor who is shedding dim lustre on himself up around Alta and Schaller in this State. Talk about swine!

Hear this sand-piper for old-lineism: "The argument against Assessmentism is *not that it is cheap*, but that it is uncertain." Now, do tell! And yet five millions of us hang our faith on the "uncertainty."

From the reports we read in the daily papers, some Iowa Assessment Companies have resisted payment on the flimsy pretext of "not being licensed to do business in Illinois."

It was the editor's privilege to participate in the Elks Memorial services in Boyd's opera house, Omaha, Dec. 5, and in the Universalist church, Cedar Rapids, Dec. 12, last. Large companies attended at both places.

Now that Governor Drake and Governor Tanner have decided that the guns in use at the Fulton riots did not wear state uniforms and that there was no armed invasion, we hope this form of advertising will be dropped.

Why do all apologists for "level" premium life insurance companies throw their arms so lovingly around the "reserve"—"a payment in advance to meet the requirements of the heavier death rate, which is certain to occur with advancing age." Is it the fascination of the "gold fever?"

A new candidate for Fraternal business is "The Columbian Hearthstone" of Iowa City, of which P. G. M., Geo. W. Ball, Esq., is the chief officer. With two at Tipton and one in the city we are getting to be quite fraternal in Eastern Iowa.

The Annuity Advocate well asks, "Why will policy holders continue to contribute a large part of the premiums they pay for insurance in old line companies, to a reserve that *never will be repaid to them.*" But we'd arise to inquire what about the same question as to your own reserve fund to which there is already credited $57,942,53?

The empty announcement through the Old-linest press that "the law surrounds the custody of the reserve with extraordinary requirements and safeguards" is to be taken with many pinches of salt. Every policy holder should inspect not only the language of the law, but the character of his security. When the receivers and counsel get done with the "reserve" usually *not less* than twenty per cent. goes to the dear deluded sack-holders.

Will the editors of the "Annuity Advocate" please tell their readers what they want with a "reserve fund" if their system is as safe and certain (which we don't doubt) as they claim? Is it not an evidence of the fear that the scheme will break down some day when we make the present membership contribute—beyond the necessary amount for safety—to protect the next generation. We're simply interested in our question.

When the "fool killer" comes along to where that Missouri Lutheran preacher is imprecating his parishoners out of their insurance and playing the devil with the future comfort of their families, he'll be too much disgusted to execute his office—he'll trade jobs with him. When he gets after that Connecticut fellow who is cutting a tantrum of the same kind, he'll just send him to Salem and have the old Puritans rise up and roast him for a *which*.

WON'T DIE.

The most disobliging set of invalids we ever saw, are the several millions of dupes who persist in belonging to the Fraternal Benefit Orders, notwithstanding the continual and faithful and *unselfish* warnings that these concerns must die "within the next five years." We saw that notice twenty years ago and the pesky "orders are not dead yet." We guess they won't die after all.

DEMANDS INSURANCE BENEFIT.

An assumpsit has been begun in the Circuit court by Lena Guengerich against the Supreme Council of the Royal League. The suit is brought to recover the amount of a benefit certificate on the life of the husband of the plaintiff, Gustav Guengerich. The amount of his benefit certificate was $4,000, and the fraternal order offered to pay half, as the Supreme council maintained that Guengerich committed suicide. This is denied by the plaintiff.

THE GOVERNING POWER.

So much has been, and is still being, written about the "law unto itself" theory in Masonry, that we venture an opinion, let it be worth what it may. To assume that the governor is above the governed is to place the servant above his lord. In our opinion there are no *ancient* landmarks in Freemasonry and neither Grand Lodges, Grand Masters, nor Worshipful Masters have any unusual or unlimited powers, not granted them by a free vote of those who compose the body of brothers. We do not assume to make the assertion that the splendid tenets of our institution do not have the permanence of age behind them, but to say that certain rules made "within the memory of men now living" are ancient landmarks which to touch or change would be heresy we do dissent from. With creditable pride it is asserted that any Grand Lodge in its combined wisdom, is better able to decide upon its own limitations than any one man whoever he may be. We can find nothing to warrant the assumption that a Grand Master has or ever should have the power to make a mason at sight or to override the laws enacted by his Grand Lodge over which he is but the temporary presiding officer, who, when his successor is elected and installd steps back to the ranks of his peers—a brother and a fellow—as he was before. The governing power is with the duly accredited body within which all matters affecting its life and work, must originate.

FARMING IN THE SOUTH

NO DROUGHTS, GENIAL CLIMATE AND AVAILABLE SECTIONS ESPECIALLY ADAPTED TO SETTLEMENT BY NORTHERN FARMERS.

Almost every variety of grains and grasses grown in the North can be successfully grown in the South, but the crops that give best results for the money invested and labor expended are fruits and vegetables. Cotton is no longer King in the South. This wonderful change may possibly have been brought about by the large number of Northern farmers that have located at so many points on the Illinois Central and the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroads in the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana. and carried with them the

PRACTICAL IDEAS OF DIVERSIFIED FARMING

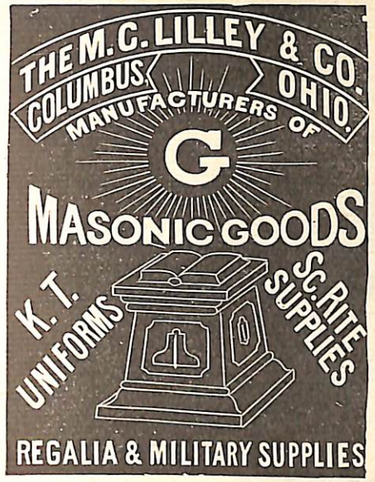
as practiced in the North. No country in America can compare with southern Mississippi and northern Louisiana for the cultivation of fruits and vegetables, and the time is not far distant when this locality will supply the early markets of the North and Northwest. All who contemplate a change of location should investigate this favored section, to aid in which, send for a free copy of the

SOUTHERN HOMESEEKERS' GUIDE

For 1895, describing the agricultural and horticultural advantages of the country traversed by the Illinois Central and the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroads in the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana. It is a 120-page book issued by the Illinois Central Railroad Co., containing many fine illustrations and facts about the South. For this book, and for further information as to locality, topography of the country, character of the soil, and products to which it is especially adapted, prices and kindred matter, address at Manchester, Iowa, J. F. Merry, Asst. Gen. Pass. Agent, Illinois Central Railroad.

AT FIFTY CTS. A YEAR.

TO OLD SUBSCRIBERS---We will credit over-due Subscriptions at the rate of One Year for each Five New or Renewal of Old Subscriptions. Do you see the cut?



New England Office No. 7 Temple Place, Boston, Mass

WARDLE, LARY & CO.

Civil and Consulting Engineers.

Surveys, Plans, Specifications, Estimates, Superintendence and Inspection furnished on Sewers Water Works, Electric Lights, Street Improvements County Roads, Street and Steam Railroads, Canals Bridges and Buildings.

All classes of engineering work promptly attended to by reliable men, at reasonable prices.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.

Room 41, Kimball Block
Phone No 390.

Cedar Rapids.

$4 PER DAY SURE
SALARY OR COMMISSION.

DO you want honorable steady employment the year round at good wages in your own home or to travel? If so, send 4c in stamps for our wholesale price-list and particulars. We furnish best of bank references.

AMERICAN TEA CO.
DETROIT, MICH.

600 sold. 25,000 sold.

Regular Corkers!

VAN NESTS'
BURLESQUE RITUALS

(THE WILD ASS.) And other Lodge Novelties, adapted to Secret Societies of all kinds. For their anniversaries, Public Entertainments and Side Degrees. Send for free illustrated descriptive circular, containing press notices and testimonials.

Address,
P. VAN NEST,
Wooster, Ohio.

July, 1y.

OFFICIAL JEWEL For wives and daughters of Knights Templar of Iowa. Made by

FRANK LE BRON,

404 Main St., Keokuk, Iowa. Send for Price Lists

EQUITABLE

Mutual Life Association

OF WATERLOO, IOWA.

ORGANIZED 1881. UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF MASONS.

WITH WHICH HAS BEEN UNITED THE

Canton Masonic Mutual Benevolent Society,

Of Canton. Illinois, AND THE

Iowa Masons' Benevolent Society of Oskaloosa Iowa.

MAKES A BUSINESS of insuring Masons, Knights Templars and Shriners. Also all others desiring Life Insurance, including Women. Issues 10 DIFFERENT FORMS OF POLICIES, including Whole Life, Probable Life, Term Renewable, Joint Life, 10 Year Term Surrender and 10, 15 and 20 Year Paid up Policies. A. No.1. Contracts made with experienced insurance men or women—for unoccupied territory. For terms and rates address

GEO. W. HARBIN, President. **WATERLOO, IOWA.** **F. H. LORING, Secretary.**

Armstrong, Wolcott Regalia Co.

MANUFACTURERS OF

The Ceebrated Armstrong Uniform,

Society Goods, Flags, Banners, Badges, Etc.

Historically Correct Costumes Our Specialty.

REMOVED TO 108-110 SOUTH DIVISION STREET.

FEZES A SPECIALTY. - Grand Rapids, Mich